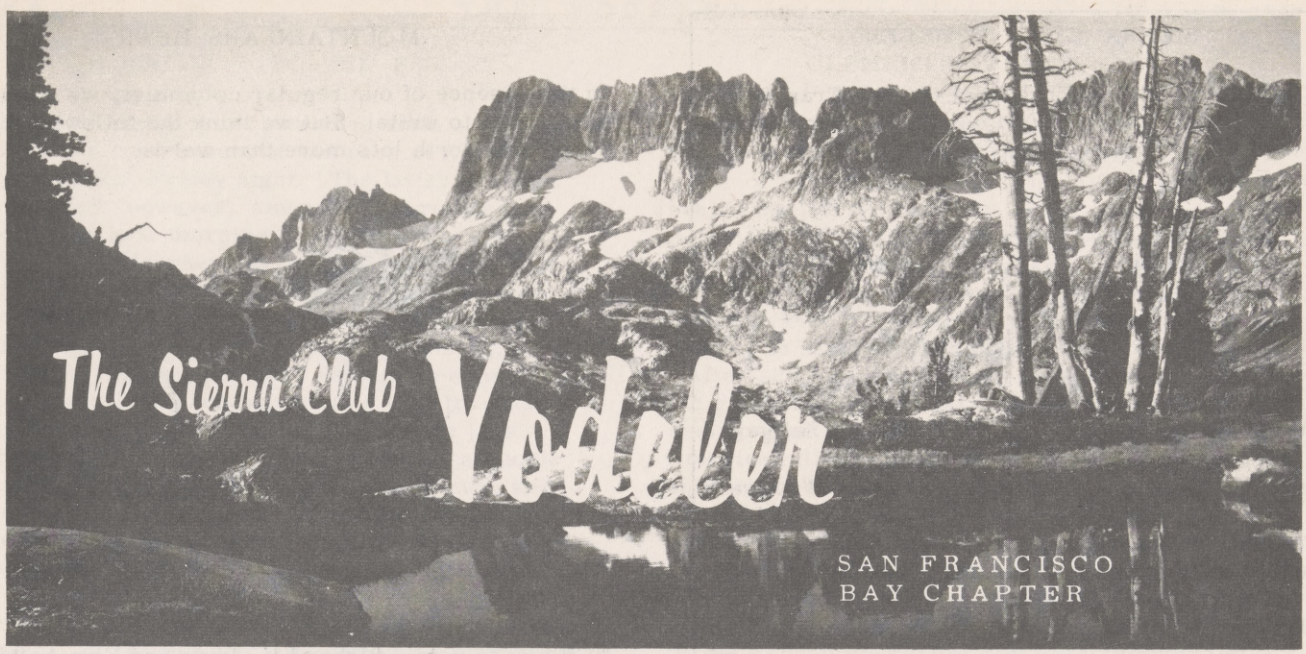

VOLUME XIX June 3, 1957 NUMBER 11

OASIS

On the road from Laytonville to the coast a small road turns north along the South Fork of the Eel River, branches into a private road which is not much more than a wagon track, and ends in a small valley which is the watershed of Beaver Creek. This little valley has never been logged. It is in the heart of the Douglas Fir and Redwood country. Magnificent trees stand thickly on the slopes and moss and ferns line the banks of the creek. Natural meadows support an amazing richness of plant and animal life. There is hardly a sign of man.

From the air one sees that the country around has been skinned of its timber. After winter storms the Eel River floods suddenly with yellow muddy water from eroded hillsides, but Beaver Creek flows evenly with clear blue water.

This watershed is an oasis saved by one man, its owner, who will gladly have it kept this way if he can find a group which will care for it, but he must naturally provide for his own retirement, the place must have proper care and there is also the matter of taxes. Counties tax on a basis of standing timber which not only penalizes conservation-minded owners, but as more and more timber is cut there is less and less to carry the load for the county.

The Nature Conservancy is deeply interested in this area, for their special concern in saving just such primeval idea with leaders of local conservation groups at a meeting in the Sierra Club offices recently. Experienced people present considered that many hundred thousand dollars would be needed to provide first expenses and continued care. Can the public be brought to contribute such a large sum for a place which is to remain forever wild?

Nothing was decided. We only write about the Beaver Creek valley because we were delighted with the pictures of native growth as it used to be up there and because it is good to see that at least some people are concerned to keep parts of California landscape from degenerating into second-best scenery.

--CMC

YODELER SUMMER VACATION

Get your stories in by June 17--our next issue--after that no more Yodeler until September.

We think we'll have a Gourmet Guide--and it isn't too late to get a few last minute recommendations in.

Have a nice summer everybody.

EAST BAY DINNER EVENING PICNIC

Put a big X over June 12. An out-of-door dinner in Tilden Park, a conducted tour of a nature trail by the naturalist, and songs around a campfire winds up the East Bay Dinners until September.

All those with cars please meet those without at Whittier School, Berkeley, at 6:PM for the drive up to Indian Springs for dinner. The last cars will leave at 6:15. The full course dinner, for $1.50 is at 6:30. Bring warm wraps.

Please phone in dinner reservations and cancellations to Betty Franklin at OLympic 5-5113 by 10:00 PM on Monday, June 10.

YOUR ALL-YEAR 'ROUND RESORT

Clair Tappaan Lodge, which has many a happy memory for skiiers, also holds lots of excitement the other three seasons of the year. Spring at Clair Tappaan is glorious. There's still the lingering winter's snow to contrast with the bud-green trees and flower studded fields and meadows. The mountains are unleashing their winter's pack into sparking, playful waterfalls, streams and lakes.

You can sleep out or in one of the comfortable bunks. The food of course is delicious and the congenial evenings of just musing, talking, reading or folk dancing really caps the day.

--MS

SIERRA CLUB YODELER

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Cartoonist ..... Dave Meschi

NEXT DEADLINE: Monday, June 17

Volume XIX, No. 11 June 3, 1957

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

We know you've been getting your Yodeler late. We agree with the reader who wrote that late news is not news, and we know it's discouraging to leaders to find trip announcements arriving after the trip itself.

The editorial staff always gets the copy in the mail the date of publication, Special Delivery to the printer, Lou Elliott, and he always gets it printed. The problem seems to be the preparation for mailing, which is rotated among the various sections. The section leaders find it hard to get a staff, and eventually the work of mailing falls to Lou who has already done so much.

We have promises of help on the mailing, and hope it will improve in the future.

....Changing the subject, we would like to solicit good photographs (and articles, also). While we won't necessarily print everything there are two requirements that are mandatory: in the words of Barbara Tilden 1) You've got to write it, and 2) you've got to send it in, --and if you don't it won't be printed!

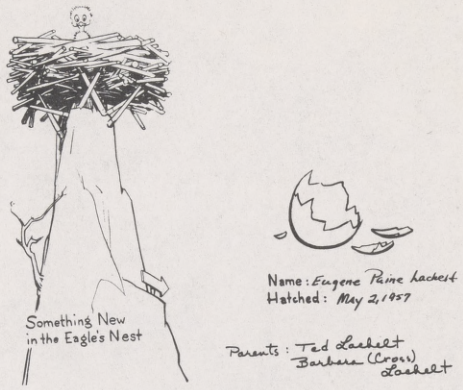
In addition to complaints such as mentioned above, we have received some compliments. This makes the editor, who is trying hard, feel really good--but the credit is certainly to be shared with the editorial staff, and to Lou Elliott, who is doing a terrific production and printing job we couldn't possibily afford from an outsider.

One last note for those interested: The editor's phone as listed in the schedule and RTS directory is wrong. After really goofing and standing us up on date arranged a month in advance, the phone company finally installed our new phone, MArket 1-1547.

--HF

MOUNTAINEARS HEAR

In the absence of our regular columnist, we don't have much to write. But we think the following picture is worth lots more than words.



How the club is growing!
RCS please note--Richard K. Irvin and Elizabeth Adelheid Bretschneider were married last May 15 in Boston.

Thomas O. Mann, CLifford 6-8060, 15 Dias Dorados, Orinda, would like to know if anyone can point out a public trail in Orinda called the Trillium Trail. We can't, can anyone else? Apparently this is a formerly popular trail used by the club and others groups.

--HF

BISMARCK KNOB

Nobody got drunk in the Napa Valley vineyards, and nobody could figure out what Bismarck had to do with the Knob, but there were planty of other things to distract us on the May 12th hike. It was raining lightly, to begin with, but most people were pretty well prepared, and the clouds and grayness seemed at times to add a certain extra beauty to the landscape. The territory covered, largely on the border between Napa and Sonoma Counties, was varied; moist green valleys alternating with scrubby, rocky hillsides. We passed an old vineyard where Marianne Shepard found a couple of large holey abalone shells. Speaking of holy things, when we finally reached our lunch spot and main destination, Bismarck Knob, we had a lovely view of the Christian Brothers winery and Seminary nestling peacefully among the trees. We could see Vallejo and Suisun Bay to the east, and Angel Island, the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge, and even part of the Golden Gate Bridge, to the south (pretty good for a cloudy day). It was rather chilly on the Knob, so we didn't linger past lunch time. Dick Monges found himself an accommodating spot in the brush, and disappeared down in it, hoping to get a cat nap. What a ridiculous idea. We were soon burning up the trail again. Sudie Mae Hodnette spied a deer, and nearly all forty of us managed to come to a thundering halt in time to at least see it disappear.

The hike came to an end in the Ettelson Ranch, where we found but didn't use, a swimming pool filled with Calso water. Mrs. Ettelson most generously invited everyone inside for doughnuts and coffee.

In the words of the vulgar, a good time was had by all.

--DB

WITH BALDWIN TO THE SEA

A busload of knapsackers swarmed down on an unsuspecting complement of campers at Arroyo Seco one recent Friday night. The latter need not have worried, however, since George rousted us out early the next morning to get started on the first leg of the journey, to South Fork camp, 14 miles away. The weather was beautiful, the vegetation lush, with Yucca and poison oak especially outstanding; and the company was interesting. South Fork (Big Sur) provided us with an especially nice campsite that evening, and the long trail had not exacted too much of a toll, even of the less experienced pack rats. (There were only a couple of people who were too exhausted to continue, and had to be abandoned by the trail.) Sam Hopkins, whose hospitality we enjoyed again, especially the following day, joined us at dinner and spent the night in our camp.

The second day's trek started out with five stream crossings, of the wet kind, followed by a long climb out of the South Fork Canyon. Mildred Holota, the rear leader, had lots of company on this stretch. A most welcome surprise awaited us at the Hopkins' place. Besides an offering of chilled Chablis, Sam provided transportation down to the Coast Highway for the whole group. Lou Henrich, rugged individualist, stuck it out to the bitter end, thereby logging in three miles more than the rest of us. And with a broken toe besides - how stoical can you be? The bus was waiting for us on the highway, and after time for dinner on the Warf in Monterey, took us home the easy way. Monday morning reflections: in the mirror, not very good, but a good conditioner (ouch, my aching legs), and proof (scratch) that immunity to poison oak is not a permanent thing.

-- Walt Oppenheimer

AUTUMN IN HAVASU

Again this fall, as he has for several years, Joe Wampler offers his Havasu Canyon trip to Sierrans at a very special rate. Havasu, a beautiful tributary of the Colorado, is a place of spectacular waterfalls, lovely blue-green water, and imposing many-colored cliffs - a photographer's paradise.

The trip, a camping-out adventure, starts at Hualapai Hilltop, about 70 miles from Peach Springs, Arizona, on Sunday, September 22, and returns there Friday, September 27. The trip fee of $43.00 includes Sunday lunch through Friday lunch. Reservations, which should include the full trip fee payable to Joe Wampler, should be addressed to: Ethel Unselt, 286 Sagamore Street, San Francisco 12. For further information, contact Ethel at JUniper 4-6207.

COVER PHOTO
Rogue River

Doesn't this look inviting? Why not join the River Touring Section for the July 4th holiday? See details on Page 3.

CLEMENTINE LAKE TOUR

Two weeks ago a group of river tourers, led by Chapter Chairman Randal Dickey, took to the flat water of Lake Clementine. The lake is situated behind the North Fork Dam on the north fork of the American River just off Highway 49 above Auburn. All of the camping gear was hauled in two rubber life rafts, one of which was powered by an outboard motor. Some of the people rode in rafts, but most paddled in kayaks and foldboats.

After putting into the water just above the dam, the group went up the lake six miles to an excellent campground located on a large sandbar, where the American River comes into the lake. The weekend activities consisted of fishing (so-so), paddling around the rapids in the River, and just plain enjoying the beautiful scenery in this steep-walled canyon. Though the weather was quite threatening at times it did not rain, and the sun deigned to show itself periodically. The lake and camp spot are maintained by the Auburn Recreation and Park District and permits are required to use boats on the lake. A charge of $1.00 per boat is assessed. To date, rafts have not been called boats for purposes of the charge. Those who enjoyed this outing, which is certain to be repeated before the year is out, were; Pauline Praasterink, Ramona Wascher, Jean Bonner, Ray Simpson, Henry Fraser, Randal Dickey, Bruce Austin, and Charles Lilley (the latter two from the Mother Lode Chapter). There were also four Eagle Scouts, Glen Orren, Neal Rogers, Jim Roberts, and Ralph Roberts. The Scouts are members of the Alameda Chapter of the Knights of Dunamis (a national honor society of Eagle Scouts, of which Randal is the chapter patron general--aren't you impressed?).

-- Name withheld by request.

SUPPORT THE T.C.C.

To be a member of the Tamalpais Conservation Club, Inc., is indeed a privilege. Did you ever stop to think what your dues help pay for in this worthwhole organization? To list a few,

Patrolling and maintaining trails,
Keeping the mountain clean,
Protecting the water supply from contamination,
Safeguarding the mountain from fire,
Building and maintaining safe fireplaces,
Cooperating with the Marin Municipal Water District and State and Federal Park Services, and
Maintaining and thus permitting all to enjoy this priceless heritage and identify you with the cause of the Club.

If you do not belong, why don't you join? The cost is so small. Your family, relatives, and friends might be interested in joining, also. Contact your Clubs T.C.C. representatives. They have the necessary applications and will give you any further information. (Sierra Club representatives-Vice-President Vivian Steeves, and Mrs. Francis F. Owens, and Walter Rivers) Memberships are: $1.00 per year for Active $5.00 per year for Contributing, and $25.00 for Life.

--Evans Hansell,
Membership Chairman, T.C.C.--

EATING OUR WAY DOWN THE ROAD OR WHO FORGOT THE GARLIC OR CAESAR DRESSING?

What started out to be a simple scouting for the July 4th R T S Rogue River Trip in Oregon turned into an adventure in good eating. It started with a really superb lunch at Schneider's Ranch, the highlight of which was strawberry shortcake alamode, and progressed on through dinner and breakfast featuring home-raised veal, garden corn, homemade huckleberry pie and fresh ranch eggs. Rugged trips, these river tours! Even when we descended to the more mundane level of camping on the river bank the high living continued. Our plan of having each member of the party responsible for one meal produced some friendly rivalry and some fine new recipes. For instance, try a stick of cinnamon in the stewed prunes. The b--- uh, beverage was always cool, one of the great advantage of river touring over hiking and rock climbing. That red net bag you'll see dangling on the stern of the boat isn't for catching crabs!

The week-end started, of course, with a long but beautiful drive up the Redwood Highway to Gold Beach, Oregon, where we took the mail boat up the river on Thursday morning. These boats are especially designed for the Rogue River and equipped with a powerful engine and retractable propellers so that the 32 mile run up the riffles through virgin country is both beautiful and exciting. The mail boat served our purpose ideally as it eliminated a long torturous car shuttle and deposited us and all our gear on the gravel bar at Agness, ready for a run back.

The Schneider Ranch is charmingly located on a slope above a wide bend in the river and looks out through large picture windows on a pastoral nearview and a heavily wooded distant view. The afternoon was spent putting up our boats, lounging on the porch and for three of us included a scouting trip 6 miles farther up the river thru numerous large rapids in Mr. Schneiders' new Rogue River Boat.

The next morning we reluctantly tore ourselves from the sybaritic life, and soon 5 boats and a motorized rubber life raft were bobbing down the river.

The first 5 miles were most exciting and were made more "interesting" by four upsets, three by the same pair in a double. This underwater scouting section reports that the river is not unpleasantly cold. We camped at Copper Canyon and ended the day with more good food.

The second day the raft played a very important role as the upstream wind proved tiring to paddle against. We experimented with taking a tow from the raft. The most successful information proved to be a flying "V", and worked very well except once when the skipper of the raft forgot he had a flying wedge in tow and swept in too close to the bank. Fast paddle work on the part of the 2 inshore boats got us out of that one without difficulty. Besides towing and carrying our gear the raft provided a photogenic subject in the Columbus-like stance and do-or-die expression of its skipper.

The second night we camped at Lobster Creek at the the roadhead. The raft with two occupants went down five miles to the mouth of the river for the cars. After another delightful evening we broke camp in the morning, ready to return to the rigors of civilization.

Helen Waterman

NEWS OF THE COUNCIL

The Sierra Club Council celebrated its first birthday this May. It is still too soon to say what it will grow up to be, but it is clear that like its parents, the Board of Directors, it is an articulate group and uninhibited in expressings its opinions.

With only one or two exceptions, the Council membership for this year is the same as it was last year, and the entire list of first year officers was re-elected. This means that the Council will have continuity of thought and action as it strives to establish itself as an effective instrument in the development of the Sierra Club.

The first major step towards a philosophy of life for the Council was the adoption of a "statement of scope" of the Council. Briefly, this document states that the purpose of the Sierra Club Council is to strengthen the Sierra Club by the provision of a forum for interchange of information and ideas; to advise the Board of Directors regarding internal affairs of the Club, and to act on matters referred to it by the Board of Directors.

There then follows a list of categories of items (in order of importance) on which the Council might be expected to act: (1) Delegated by Board for decision and action; (2) referred by Board for study and recommendation; (3) introduced by Council members for advice to Chapters and Club Committees represented; (4) originating in Council with intent to request action by the Board at a later date.

This then is an over-all picture of the Council on its first birthday. Future articles will deal with specific problems discussed by the Council at its last meeting. -- Roy Dubisch
Member, Sierra Club Council

SEE THE BEAUTIFUL ROGUE RIVER
OVER THE JULY 4TH HOLIDAY WITH THE
RIVER TOURING SECTION

This is one of the few RTS trips where one is welcome without a boat! Since we are using the Mail Boat Service to get us upstream in lieu of the usual car shuttle, those without boats can return on the mail boat. They will enjoy the same beautiful country, partake of the unusually fine food and hospitality at Schneider's where we stay the first night, and camp with us the second night in beautiful Copper Canyon. Those without boats will find the swimming, hiking and fishing excellent.

FOR THOSE WITH FOLDBOATS . . . this trip will appeal to all types of paddlers. The white water folks will find plenty to test their skill above Illahee, intermediates will enjoy the stretch between Illahee and Agness, and beginners or those with doubles will find lots of interesting water below Agness.

Sorry, no rigid kayaks as there is no practical way to get them upstream. Entire cost of the trip, including transport, food & lodging should not exceed $30.00. Reservations (with $5.00 deposit per person) must be received no later than June 24. If you would like more details, mail the blank below immediately.

LOU ELLIOTT
1016 Jackson, Oakland 7

☐ I would like additional information on the RTS Rogue River Trip, July 4, 5, 6 & 7.
☐ Enclosed is my $5.00 deposit. Please send me more details.
I have a double ☐ single ☐ foldboat.
☐ I will take the mail boat both ways.
My party will consist of myself and _____

Name _____

Address _____ Phone _____

ALL HANDS WANTED

Bradley Hut construction is about to begin with the first work party scheduled for June 22 and 23. Subsequent work parties will be held every other week to August 31, which includes the long weekend of July 4, 5, 6 and 7. It is hoped that the maximum number of people can help establish a new speed record for construction, besting the Ludlow Hut mark of seven weekends.

Food should be outstanding, with President Harold Bradley heading this phase of activity.

Don Huber and Bob McGillicuddy are tackling the major problem of establishing a drag line to bring materials and equipment from road's end to the top of the ridge above the hut.

Merritt Robinson is trying to locate a four wheel vehicle with winch for use around the hut over the July 4 weekend. Anyone with ideas?

Excellent plans have been drawn by Phil Faulconer, and several other stalwarts are working out the many logistical problems we are expecting to encounter.

River-tourers, rock-climbers, hikers, skiiers and other groups are urged to form parties and join this most wholesome and rewarding activity. Everyone is welcome and needed. Remember, you get work party credit for CTL during winter or for the Bradley Hut in 1960, the big Olympics year.

Contact Ned Robinson at TEmplebar 2-5373 or Merritt Robinson at WAlnut 4-1350 for further exciting details.

-- Ned Robinson

HIKERS' PARTY - JUNE 16

Have your ticket yet? Better make the next mail, because they are going fast! Dinner will be prepared by Oscar Ortiz, the Artiste, and his staff. Herb Sabel is in charge of folk-dancing arrangements. Call Phyllis Smith, at DOuglas 2-8755 or Walt Oppenheimer, OVerland 1-5536, for tickets, or better yet, consult your last Yodeler for complete information: place, time and people to contact.

MOTHER LODE COUNTRY CAR CAMPING JUNE 8-9

Remember the wonderful prospects for this trip (see last Yodeler) for gold panning, folk dancing, hiking in this unique country, well, the invitation still stands. Pauline Praasterink will be glad to hear from you if you would like to offer or need transportation. Call her at Plaza 5-2704.

FOR SALE

Quick Sale -- 2-1/2 boats -- short of time and storage space. 1 canvas double, good ready flat-water boat, 40 lbs, $40.

1 canvas kayak Klepper T-6 hull design, very good, ready $40.

1 Kissner double folbot parts. Needs much work, $25. Call Ray Simpson (Dinosaur bound) evenings, before Tuesday June 11, HEmlock 1-6893.

THE MODERN STAR GUIDE makes it easy to learn the constellations and the names of the brighter stars at any hour on any date of the year. It is a ten inch double disc arrangement, printed on rigid durable plastic. Full instructions are printed on the face and on the back is a wealth of information about the stars and planets. A tale of planetary positions for Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn for a period of ten years is included. Endorsed by Morrison Planetarium. Campers, teachers, scout leaders and individual star gazers need this guide with or without a telescope. Retail price: $2.50 postpaid. You may order it from Modern Star Guide, 2321 Derby Street, Berkeley 5, or telephone Mrs. A.M. Erskine at THornwall 5-6886.

LEDER HOSEN

That's leather shorts imported from Germany, original Bavarian article "Marke Bergfreund", steerhide, grey, in all sizes for adults and children. Also original leather suspenders, Bavarian jackets, hats, knee stockings and "Stutzen". Reasonable prices.

Phone or write: Mrs. Annemarie Fahrenbach
463 Hanover Avenue
Oakland 6
GLencourt 2-1381

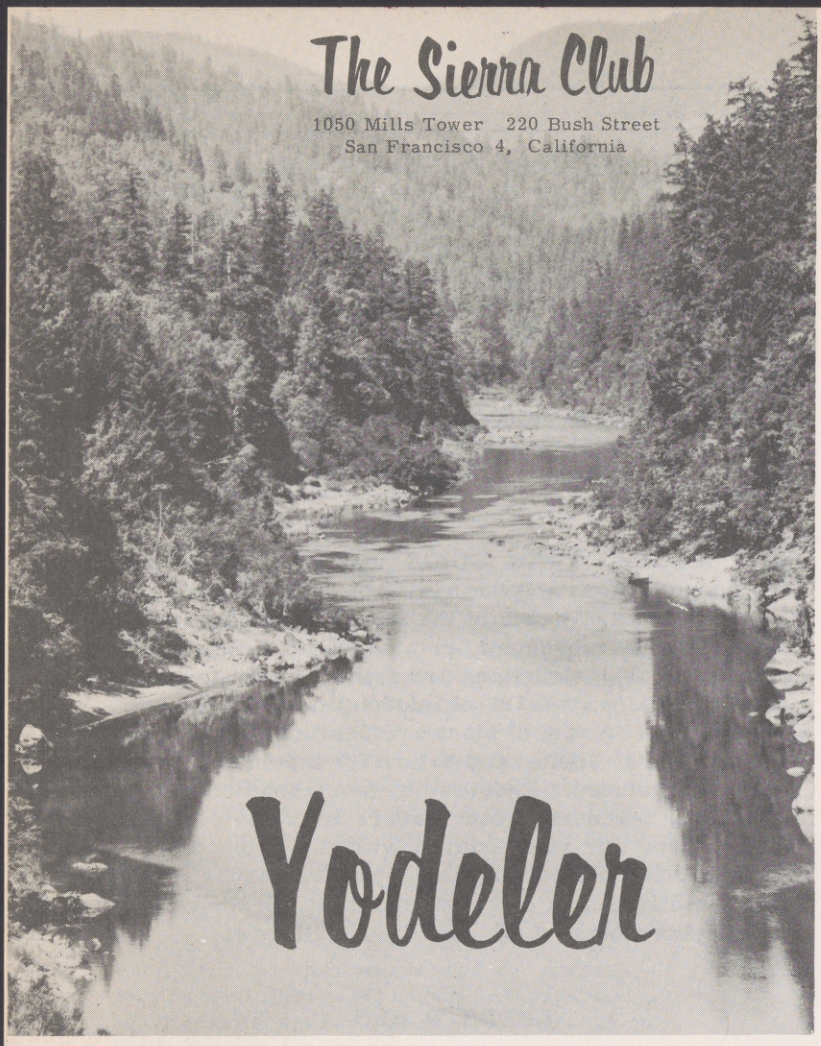
Hammer single-seater Falt boot with extra paddle and spray cover. Dr. Donald Dietrich, LAndscape 5-4766,

Basket weave auto luggage rack, 36" x 36", $8. Walter Neill, GLenwood 3-1571.

WANTED TO RENT

Unfurnished house, 3 bedrooms, indoor-outdoor play area, Berkeley or north Oakland. Can occupy now or in August, through August 1958. Will Lease. Phone LAndscape 5-4450.

--Mother; father; boy, age 5; girl, age 1



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REMINDER

You're welcome at the June 10 Executive Committee meeting. Don Ever's home, 5742 Nottingham Drive, Oakland, at 8 p.m.

MOUNTAINEERING COMPANIONS WANTED

The Mountaineering Committee has been contacted by two Eastern climbers in search of climbing companions for two different types of trips this summer. Anyone interested should contact the persons directly and as soon as possible.

Expedition to Chugach Mts. in Alaska. Lawrence Nielsen (86 East St., Springfield 4, Mass.) has room for one or two qualified climbers on this trip. This wonderful area has only been visited once and offers ice and snow climbing of the highest order. The party plans to assemble June 8 in Anchorage and will fly into the area.

Mr. Nielsen led the first party into this area in 1955 and has done much Alaskan climbing. Qualified mountaineers interested in joining this trip should contact him immediately.

Mr. Larry Miner (40 Westomere Terrace, New London, Conn.) is interested in joining or organizing a small party to climb in the Sierras for two weeks in July. Larry is a former Bay Area resident and member of the American Alpine Club. He has climbed in Canada, Alaska, Bugagoos, Alps, Tetons, Selkirks. Any serious climber interested in joining Larry in any type of climbing program, no matter how ambitious, should contact him. --Dick Houston